HELEN MARKHAM

Apropos of Helen Markham's clear, persistent and deliberate perjury before the Commission - and no other words describe it - this is the comment of the Commission on p.168 of the report:

"During her testimony Mrs. Markham initially denied that she ever had the above phone conversation. She has subsequently admitted to the existence of the conversation and offered an explanation for her denial. Addressing itself solely to the probative value of Mrs. Markham's contemporaneous description of the gunman and her positive identification of Oswald at the police lineup, the Commission considers her testimony reliable. However, even in the absence of Mrs. Markham's testimony, there is ample evidence to identify Oswald as the killer of Tippit."

Not even as flexible an imaginagion as the authors of the report possess can find what Helen Markham said about her perjury "an explanation".

Note that the Commission specifically says that in the face of this "the Commission considers her testimony reliable."

When Mark Lane refused to break a lawyer-client relationship and accused the Commission (which at no time denied it) of making unreasonable demands of him, the Commission accused him of interfering with the Commission's function, endangering the country, and the Chief Justice himself concluded that, in the fact of Lane's position, the Commission was warranted in not believing anything Lane said. Note also that Oswald made many statements to the police which have since been more than abundantly confirmed. Whether or not he lied in an unusual manner, considering that he was in jail and charged with murder, may be open to question. But nonetheless it is known that much, if not most, of what he said was truthful. Yet the Commission, on the ground that Oswald was a liar, refused to pay any attention to anything he said.

Now, in its own bed it has a perjuror. But it likes her.